

Disclaimer

These maps are a representation of inundation based on local Mean Higher High Water (MHHW). Inundation is assumed to occur at a constant elevation (*Bathtub Model*) and **no other factors** other than tidal elevation are used to determine water levels.

The land surface elevations are based on data with an average accuracy of 15 cm (6 inches), however areas of heavy vegetation may have errors exceeding that amount.

The Delaware Coastal Programs makes no warranty and promotes no other use of these maps other than as a preliminary planning tool.

Methods

Mean Higher High Water (MHHW) is calculated for each watershed using the NOAA VDatum software. The watershed reference location for MHHW is at the confluence of the selected watershed's river and the Delaware Bay/River except for the Inland Bays, where the location is the center of the selected bay, the Nanticoke River, where the location is the city of Seaford, and the developed Atlantic Coast, where the location is offshore in the Atlantic Ocean near Indian River Inlet.

These maps represent a constant, watershed based, water level and do not include any changes in water level due to the distance from tidal forcing, downstream flow, or other factors which could possibly change water levels. Any impediments (dikes, dams, etc.) to inland flow protect upstream areas until the elevation of the impediment is overcome by either higher water elevation or bypassing the impediment, at which time all land area previously protected is assumed to be inundated up to current water level. Impoundments and other areas protected by dikes where tide gates are installed are assumed to protect the inland areas until the water level exceeds the lowest dike elevation. Bridges are shown at true elevation, if the bridge is shown as inundated the water level has exceeded the road surface of the bridge.

The land surface elevations are based on statewide LiDAR data with a statewide average root mean square error (RMSE) of 15 cm (6 inches), however areas of heavy vegetation may have elevation errors exceeding that amount.